

III. Remarks**A. Status of Claims**

Applicants filed a Preliminary Amendment with the application filing on September 27, 2005. In that Preliminary Amendment, claim 3 was amended to remove its multiple dependency and claim 18 was added. Therefore, claims 1-18 are pending.

B. Allowable Subject Matter/Summary of Amendments

Applicants are grateful to the Examiner for allowing claims 6-17 and for recognizing the allowable subject matter set forth in claims 2 and 5 if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the rejected base claims. Claims 2 and 5 have been rewritten in independent form. Claims 3 and 4 are amended to correct their dependencies in view of the amendment to claim 2 and cancellation of claim 1. Claim 18 has been canceled in view of its redundancy to amended claim 3.

It is submitted that all claims are in allowable form.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance at an early date, which action is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any excess payment that may be associated with this communication to deposit account **04-1679**.

Respectfully submitted,

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